

Altruistic Behaviour among High School Students of Assam in relation to their Gender, Area and Type of School Management

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Abstract :

Altruistic behaviour is a natural tendency of an individual to help others without expecting any kind of external rewards or benefits. The main objective of the study is to find out the levels of altruistic behaviour of high school students with respect to gender, place of residence and type of school management. In the present study, the researchers adopted normative survey method with simple random sampling to select a sample of 160 high school students aged 14 –16 years in Sonitpur district of Assam. The findings of this study reveal that altruistic behaviour of high school students differ significantly with respect to gender, area and type of school management.

Keywords: Altruistic behaviour, High school, students

Introduction

“The most important human endeavour is the striving for morality in our actions, our inner balance and even our very existence depend upon it, and only morality in our actions can give beauty and dignity to life” -Albert Einstein

Today’s society is changing very fast due to the development of technology, industrialization, modernization, urbanization, westernization, which has a great impact on changing the moral, social, religious values among people as well as increases the social chaos, confusion, crime in the modern society. Everywhere is a trend of competition for wealth. In the run of competition people forget to look back at what is happening with the person next to him, which is a great threatened for the human society.

The people are going away from the value based path of life. Due to rapid changes in society especially teenage people feel stress, strain, anxiety, maladjustment, loneliness. In such a situation, they most of the time follow the wrong direction of life. As they are the future of our nation, developing positive social quality and value base life like love, tolerance, sacrifice, honesty, emotional stability, altruistic behaviour, co- operation etc is urgently required. “Our Indian culture has always preached the good things like simplicity, peace, spirit of service, humanity, and positive actions are good character of human beings. Every human in the world is suffering now because of anti-humans actions committed by another human. Due to self-centered nature human’s big wealth like character, values, virtues, morals and ethics are lost now a day and the barbaric qualities dominating the human life. Scientific and technological revolution changes the human life style but at the same time one things we have to accept our education system produces labours for the market need and failed to give importance to our human values. “Our present educational system with all its complexities and intricacies have proved to be deficient so far, as it neglects or does not give deserving importance to values in human life” (Venkataiah, 2005). But there is an urgent need to revive reform and nurture the human values life to lead a peaceful society”- (Padmavathy, 2016).

Altruism

The term “Altruism” is used in the meaning of charity or beneficence until the beginning of the twentieth century keeping this is closely associated with religious views. “The term was first coined by Auguste Comte, (1875), a French Philosopher and sociologist and one of the founders of sociology in the nineteenth century (Encyclopedia of Britannica, 1967, Vol.8). Probably he came to adapt the term from the Italian *altrui*. For him altruism was an unselfish regard for the welfare of others. Altruism refers to one specified type of prosocial behavior—voluntary actions intended to benefit another that are intrinsically motivated—that is acts motivated by internal motives such as concern and sympathy for others or by values and self rewards rather than personal gains. Internalized values that instigate altruism include a belief in the importance of others welfare or justice. Individuals may reinforce or reward themselves with feelings of self esteem pride or self satisfaction when they behave in ways consistent with those internalized values and they may punish themselves (with guilt or feeling of worthlessness) when they do not

(Bandura, 1977,1986)” (as cited in Punjvani,2015). The terms describe behavior that is directed in a positive way and is given the name of “positive social behavior” by Wispe (1978).

Objectives of the Study

1. To find the levels of altruistic behaviour among high school students.
2. To examine the significant difference in altruistic behaviour among high school students in relation to their gender.
3. To examine the significant difference in altruistic behaviour among high school students in relation to their place of residence.
4. To examine the significant difference in altruistic behaviour among high school students in relation to their type of school management.

Hypotheses of the Study

1. There exists no significant mean difference of altruistic behaviour among male and female high school students.
2. There exists no significant mean difference of altruistic behaviour among urban and rural high school students.
3. There exists no significant mean difference of altruistic behaviour among government and private school high school students.

Literature Review

Some of the studies relates to the studies are given as follows: Shelly & Narang (2018) found that female students have more altruistic behavior than male students and there is a positive correlation between stress and altruism. Mandal & Mehera (2017) found that there exists a significant positive association between altruism and emotional intelligence of adolescent children. Kumar (2016) found that students belonging to those families who have more number of family members; they have high altruism than the less number of family members. Altruism and self concept has positive relationship when the family members are high in the family compared to small families. Ummet, et. al., (2015) found that altruism of the people have been affected by the ego of the people and life

satisfaction. Again nurturing parent ego states has a positively significant predicted effect in total on altruism behavior of the students. Pal (2008) found that religious attitude is found an important factor in determining the altruism behavior of individuals. The study also reveals that female subjects are found more altruistic in comparison to male subjects.

Need and significant of the study

Modern society has become more materialistic day by day. People are at present time for achieving the best than other forgetting the value of life. People are becoming busy making wealthier ignoring the personal and societal values, for that reason they have no time to see the problems of others. In such cases positive aspects of life like Altruistic behaviour, gratitude, kindness, empathy etc are important to develop among the people so that they realize the humanity. For developing this positive aspect of life, students are not getting chance to involve in society fully to understand the life of other people outside their own life. They are busy with themselves only. In such a situation, it has stood as a barrier for all round development of students. So present study try to throw light on altruistic behaviour as a positive aspect of life, which is important for developing better personality as well as good human being.

Methodology used for the study

In this present study, researchers employed normative survey method. In order to keep manageable enough, from the total population high students of class IX and X studying in Sonitpur district of Assam, sample of 160 includes both the male (80) and female (80) high school students was selected using random sampling method by the investigator from two schools one is government and another one is private school. From this male and female, 73 belongs to rural area and 87 belongs to urban area and 84 from private school and 76 from government school. The age ranges of the sample from 14-16 years. Keeping the nature of study in view, researcher used To measure the tendency of high school students towards altruism a standardized Altruism Scale by Dr. S.N. Rai and Dr. Sanwat Singh and personal data sheet constructed by the investigator were used to collect the details of demographic variables. Altruism Scale has 30 items having three

alternative based of altruistic, egoistic and neutral. This scale is application on children age group of 10 to 19 years. The altruism scale has been found to be highly reliable and validity.

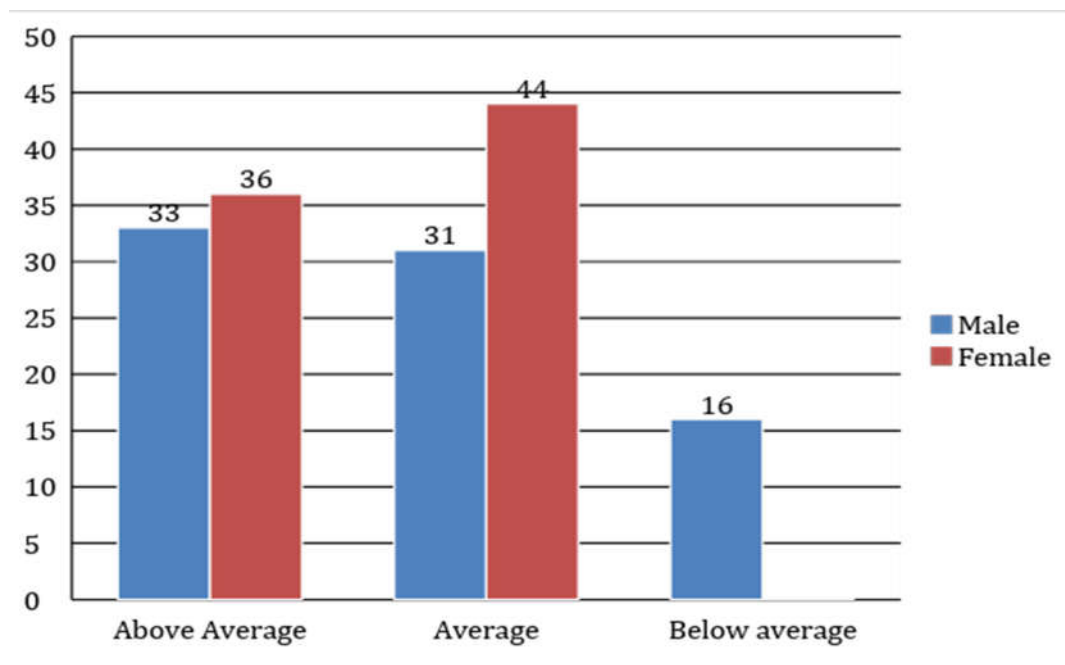
Data Analysis and Interpretation of the results

In the present study the collected data were analysed using mean, standard deviation, Bar diagram, t - statistic. The results are presented below.

Table I: Showing levels of Altruistic Behaviour Gender wise

Levels of Altruistic Behaviour							
Gender	Above Average	%	Average	%	Below average	%	Total
Male	33	20.6	31	19.3	16	10	80
Female	36	22.5	44	27.5	Nil	Nil	80
Total	69	43.1	75	46.8	16	10	160

Fig I: Bar chart showing levels of Altruistic Behaviour Gender wise



Interpretation

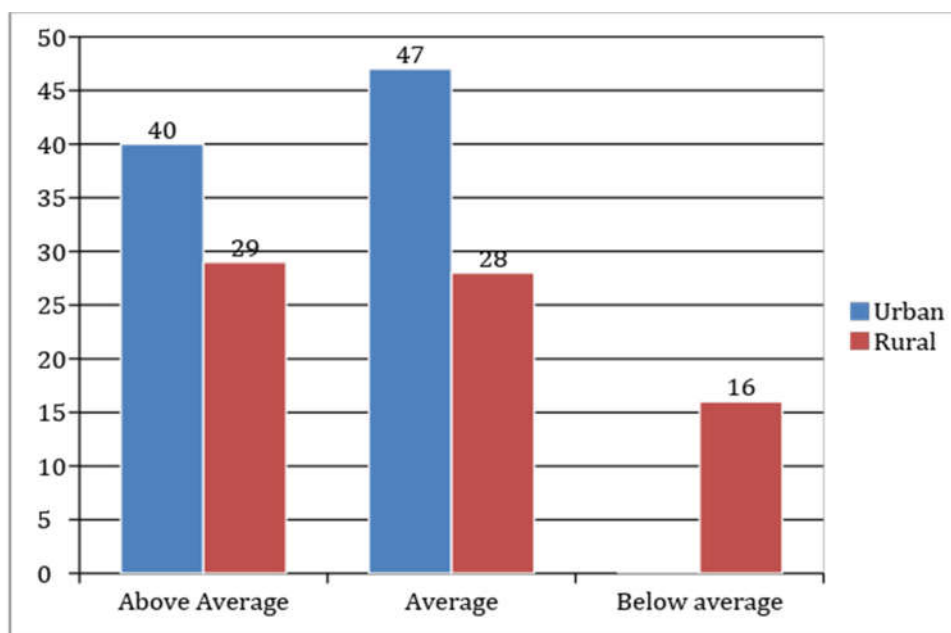
The above Table I, indicates that 33 (20.62%) male students and 36 (22.5 %) female students fall in the range of above average altruistic behaviour 31 (19.37%) male

students and 44 (27.5%) female students fall in the range of average altruistic behaviour 16(10%) male students fall in the range of below average altruistic behaviour but no female students fall in this category.

Table II: Showing levels of Altruistic Behaviour Place of Residence wise

Levels of Altruistic Behaviour							
Place of Residence	Above Average	%	Average	%	Below average	%	Total
Urban	40	25	47	29.37	Nil	Nil	87
Rural	29	18.12	28	17.5	16	10	73
Total	69	43.12	75	46.87	16	10	160

Fig II: Bar chart showing levels of Altruistic Behaviour Place of Residence wise



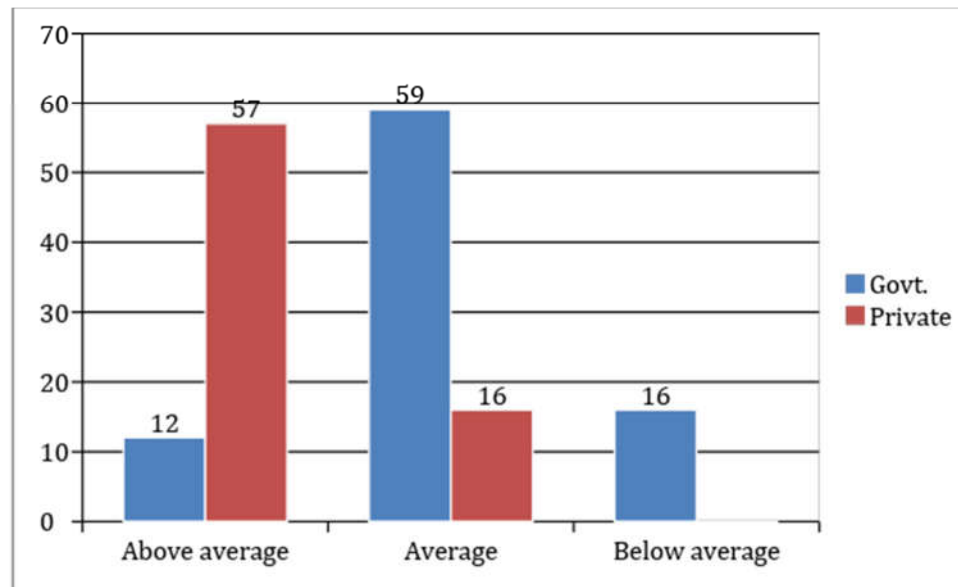
Interpretation

The above Table II indicates that 40 (25%) urban students and 29 (18.12%) rural students fall in the range of above average altruistic behaviour 47 (29.37%) urban students and 28 (17.5%) rural students fall in the range of average altruistic behaviour 16 (10%) rural students fall in the range of below average altruistic behaviour but no urban students fall in this category.

Table III: Showing levels of Altruistic Behaviour Type of School Management wise

Levels of Altruistic Behaviour							
Type of School Management	Above Average	%	Average	%	Below average	%	Total
Govt.	12	7.5	59	36.87	16	10	76
Private	57	35.62	16	10	Nil	Nil	84
Total	69	43.12	75	46.87	16	10	160

Fig III: Bar chart showing levels of Altruistic Behaviour Type of School Management wise



Interpretation

The above Table III indicates that 12 (7.5%) govt. school students and 57 (35.62%) private school students fall in the range of above average altruistic behaviour. 59 (36.87%) govt. school students and 16 (10%) private school students fall in the range of average altruistic behaviour 16 (10%) govt. students fall in the range of below average

altruistic behaviour but no private school students fall in the range of below average category

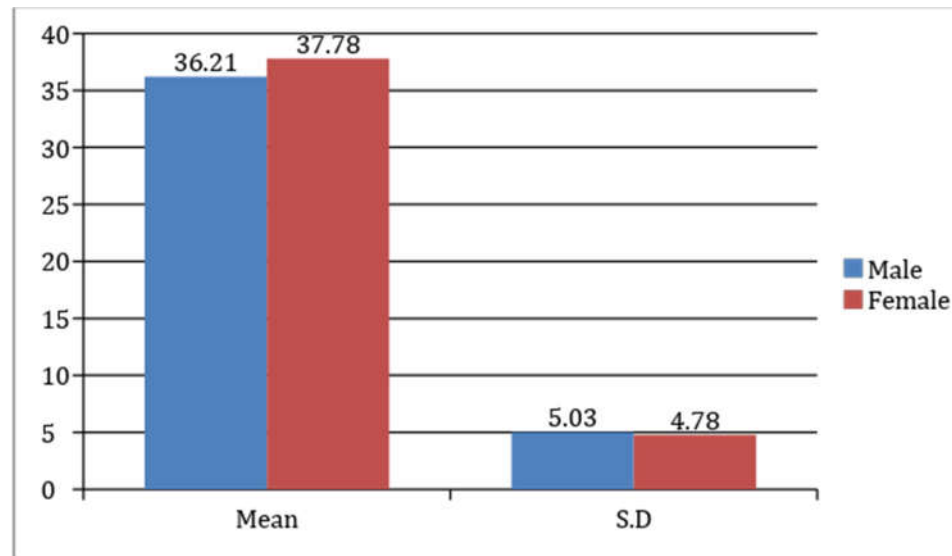
Analysis of mean score of altruistic behavior of male and female high school students

Hypothesis 1: There exists no significant mean difference of altruistic behaviour among male and female high school students.

Table IV: Comparison of mean scores of Altruistic Behavior in relation to gender

Variable	Gender	Number	Mean	S.D	t-value	Df	Sig. (2-tailed)
Altruistic Behavior	Male	80	36.21	5.03	2.03	158	0.04
	Female	80	37.78	4.78			

Fig IV: Bar chart showing comparison of Altruistic Behaviour in relation to gender



Interpretation

In the Table IV given above, The mean and standard deviation of altruistic behavior in male is found to be 36.21 and 5.03 and female is 37.78 and 4.78. The mean difference is found to be 1.57. Comparing the mean score shows female high school students scored more than male in altruistic behavior. The calculated t- value is found to be 2.03 with df

158 and level of significance is 0.04 which is less than the 0.05 level of significance. It shows statistically evidence not to accept the null hypothesis. In other words, there is a significant difference between altruistic behavior among male and female high school students.

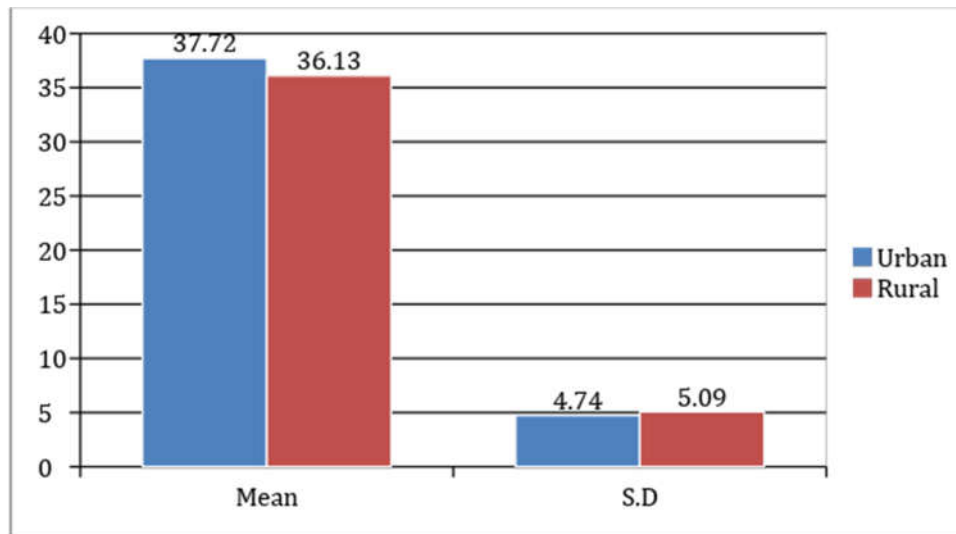
Analysis of mean score of altruistic behaviour of urban and rural students

Hypothesis 2: There exists no significant mean difference of altruistic behaviour among urban and rural high school students.

Table V: Comparison of Altruistic Behavior in relation to School area

Variable	Place of Residence	Number	Mean	S.D	t- value	Df	Sig. (2-tailed)
Altruistic Behavior	Urban	87	37.72	4.74	2.03	158	0.043
	Rural	73	36.13	5.09			

Fig V: Bar chart showing comparison of Altruistic Behavior in relation to School area



Interpretation

In the Table V given above, the mean and standard deviation of altruistic behavior in urban is found to be 37.72 and 4.74 and rural is 36.13 and 5.09. The mean difference is found to be 1.59. Comparing the mean score shows urban students scored more than rural students in altruistic behavior. The calculated t- value is found to be 2.03 with df 158 and level of significance is 0.043 which is less than the 0.05 level of significance. It shows statistically evidence not to accept the null hypothesis. In other words, there is a significant difference between altruistic behavior among urban and rural high school students.

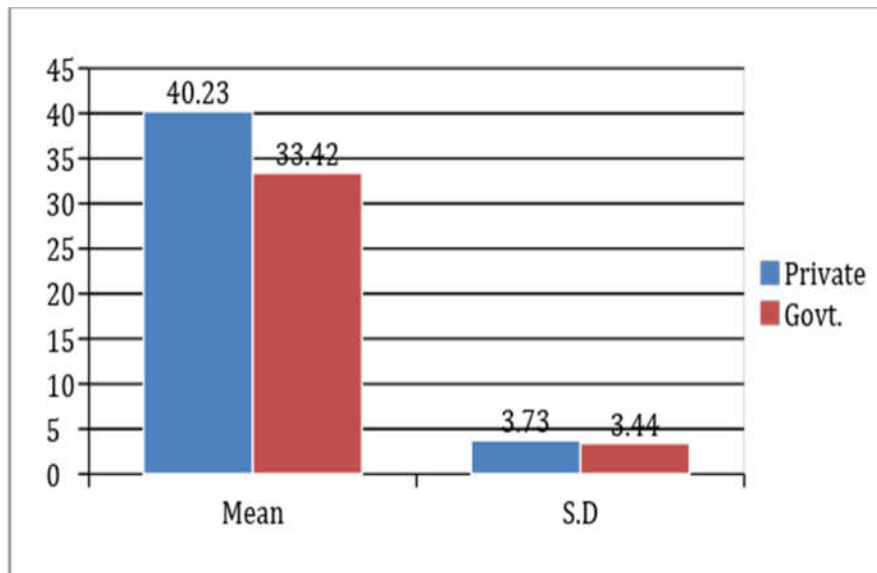
Analysis of mean score of Altruistic Behavior of government and private high school students

Hypothesis 3: There exists no significant mean difference of altruistic behaviour among government and private high school students.

Table VI: Comparison of Altruistic Behavior of Private and Government School Students

Variable	Type of School Management	Number	Mean	S.D	t-value	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
Altruistic Behavior	Private	84	40.23	3.73	11.95	158	0.001
	Govt.	76	33.42	3.44			

Fig VI: Bar chart showing comparison of Altruistic Behavior of Private and Government School Students



Interpretation

In the Table VI given above, the mean and standard deviation of altruistic behavior in private is found to be 40.23 and 3.73 and govt. is 33.42 and 3.44. The mean difference is found to be 6.81. Comparing the mean score shows private high school students scored more than govt. high school students in altruistic behavior. The calculated t- value is found to be 11.95 with df 158 and level of significance is 0.001 which is less than the 0.05 level of significance. It shows statistically evidence not to accept the null hypothesis. In other words, there is a significant difference between altruistic behavior among private and govt. high school students.

Discussion of the study

In this study different levels of altruistic behaviour exist among the high school students are studied. According to the results of the above analysis it is found

- There is a significant difference between altruistic behavior among male and female high school students.

- There is a significant difference between altruistic behavior among urban and rural high school students.
- There is a significant difference between altruistic behavior among government and private high school students.

Educational Implications

- The present study will help the policy maker or curriculum maker to frame the education system in such a way by adding different recreational activities which will help to develop altruistic behaviour among students.
- The present study will be helpful to develop the altruistic behaviour in students through organizing social service activities by school.
- It will help to understand the parents as well as teacher the importance of developing altruistic behaviour among their children or students.

Conclusion

The study shows that most of the students have average altruistic behaviour and there is a significant difference in the mean score of high school students in relation to their gender, place of residence and type of school management. The care on the right time and prompting the habit of altruistic behaviour among the upcoming generation who are the future citizens of the nation is indispensable for the survival of the society. So it is necessary to develop altruistic behaviour among high school students. It will lead them to become a good human in the society, who can live a happy life as well as can do for the betterment of society without considering own benefits, which is the urgent needs of present modern society.

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